



**Multi-Modal Transportation Commission
Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2013
3:00-4:30 PM
Room 623 HR Training Room
6th Floor - City Hall**

Attending:

Commission Members: Bruce Emory, Jim Grode, Terri March, Bob Roepnack, Don Kostelec, Itiyopiya Ewart, Till Dohse, Kristy Carter, Mary Weber, Marcia Bromberg and Lael Gray.

Staff Members: Roderick Simmons, Martha McGlohon, Mariate Echeverry, Stephanie Monson, David Foster, Blake Esselstyn and Janet GeorgeMurr.

Community Members: David Allen Wilson and Lyuba Zuyeva.

• Jim Grode opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to MMTC Meeting and requested introductions from the public.

• December 4, 2013 Agenda – Additions under New Business: Jim - MMTC Annual Report; and Kristy Carter adding Haywood Road Report; Marcia moved to approve the agenda, Bob seconded and carried unanimously.

• September 25, 2013 Minutes Bruce motioned to approve the minutes, Julie seconded and carried unanimously.

• **Public Comment- None**

New Business:

• **Request to permanently close excess ROW adjacent to Summit Avenue and an unopened ROW between Summit and Allen Avenues:** David Foster, Deputy PW Director, presented to MMTC a staff report; map outlining the area; and the process. After a group question and answer session, Don moved to support the request to permanently close the excess ROW adjacent to the Summit Avenue and unopened ROW between Summit and Allen Avenues with the recommendation that the new property owner incorporate multimodal aspects at the time of the development. Marcia seconded and carried unanimously.

• **Destination Development Forum:** Jim reminded MMTC of this forum on Wednesday, 12/11/13 from 12-5pm at the US Cellular Center. Jim will not be able to attend but is asking some of the MMTC members to attend. Mary, Kristy and Mariate will be attending.

• **MMTC Monthly Scheduling Conflict** – questions regarding the timing of the MMTC meeting on the 4th Wednesday of every month and the time. After group discussion, this agenda item is tabled for January until further notice from Iti regarding her class schedule.

• **City of Asheville Greenway Master Plan Proposal Approved by Council 11/12/13** – Jim announced that the document is now an official plan that is being considered by NCDOT whenever NCDOT proceeds with improvements for the City of Asheville.

• **Update on By-Laws and Rules of Procedure** – Martha summarized the process of the By-Laws Committee and concluded:

1. **By-Laws:** The By-Laws are a reiteration of the Ordinance No.4190 that requires MMTC to have a set of by-laws; therefore, MMTC will adopt the Ordinance as its By-Laws.

Till moved to adopt Ordinance 4190 as the MMTC By-Laws; Marcia seconded and carried unanimously.

2. Rules of Procedure – Martha stated that the only item that was in question was the authority of MMTC to appoint committee members. The Greenway Committee and Transit Committee are currently committees of the MMTC. In the Rules of the Procedure the Greenway Committee and Transit Committee designated as standing committees meaning there are no termination dates that Transit Committee and Greenway Committee will always be committees of MMTC.

A group discussion on the question of the term limits to coincide with the designated committees:

- a. The intent of MMTC at the time the Transit Committee and the Greenway Committee terms on the committees would run concurrent with the terms of the MMTC.
- b. Jim will include the above information in the Rules of Procedure to be reviewed by the MMTC before the January meeting in order to vote on this issue.
- c. Bruce made the motion to extend Marcia Bromberg's term through 7/1/14 on the Greenway Committee; Till second and carried unanimously.
- d. Bruce recommended that under the Article II-Purpose: to add "parking" to the end of the sentence.
- e. Don suggested separating the term bike and pedestrian facilitates to read as: bike facilities and pedestrian facilities, since they are very different means, modes and users.
- d. Terri mentioned the possibility of formalizing the membership structure of the Bike/Ped Task Force to be similar to the Transit and Greenway Committees and the logistics.

● **Transit and Greenway Committee Members Term Limits:** Comments combined with the above #2. Rules of Procedure.

● **Update of NC Bike Summit:** In summary:

1. Approximately 12 people from Asheville and a total of approximately 200 attended in Carrboro for 3 days;
2. Once New Belgium is open, the NC Active Transportation Alliance (ATA) suggested having the Bike Summit in Asheville in 2015.
3. Carrboro set the stage that the larger cities do not have the ability to do. The meetings were held in different areas so that the attendees had to get out amongst the town.
4. The possibility for the NC Bike Summit to be held in Charlotte or Greensboro next year.
5. The NC Active Transportation Alliance intent is only to have the Summit in bike friendly designated communities in NC.
6. Two hundred school aged kids joined in a community bike ride.

● **Consideration of Resolution of Opposition to NCDOT prioritization policies:** After Don summarized the reasons for the Resolution which was passed by Raleigh City Council and by the Board of Capital Area of MPO (which was in MMTC meeting packet) a group discussion:

1. Jim recommends speaking with Council members first to see if they are interested and to get on the Council agenda.
2. Bob recommended referring to the Ordinance that MMTC established.
3. Jim stated that MMTC needs to do the homework before passing it to Council.
4. Don recommends adjusting the existing resolution to talk about the broader transportation alternatives, i.e. funding in addition to the safe routes.
5. Marcia suggested bullet points in drafting a resolution.
6. Lyuba stated the next MPO meeting is in January and there is time to add to the agenda, but need interest from TTC and TAC to bring it forward.
7. Mariate stated that MMTC will have a Council liaison in January as well as to the TAC.
8. Don and Terri will work on a one page summary and resolution to send to MMTC for review. The resolution will state the overall method of defining funding sources for transportation alternatives; and if the City of Asheville will be subject to funding a percentage.

- **Discussion of Expanding the Number of Seats on the Committees:** Bruce updated MMTC on Transit Committee's application process.
 1. The new MMTC Rules of Procedures states that a committee could have 7 to 11 members.
 2. In addition, the Title VI part of the Federal Transit Legislation that requires that any committee dealing with transit has to reflect the composition of the population using the service. What that meant for the Transit Committee is to conduct a more extensive outreach program and recruit additional minority members to the Transit Committee.
 3. The Transit Committee has tentatively selected 4 people but on hold to do a more aggressive outreach program and to identify additional minority members for the Transit Committee.
 4. The same procedure will also apply to MMTC.
 5. Mariate stated that the new Title VI is very specific about what the board composition should be and that the minority composition should be reflected in the board composition. If the board takes action in transit issues, the board needs to reflect that. MMTC will need to either reflect demographics or demonstrate that a good faith effort has been made to reach that composition.
 6. Mariate was speaking with Julie Mayfield, Chairman of Transit Committee; discussing that the demographic diversity shouldn't come only from the Transit Committee but from the other two committees that are part of the MMTC.
 7. Greenway Committee is now sending out applications for recruiting members and it is a prime opportunity to reach out to areas/groups/agencies that work with minorities.
 8. For Asheville area, 20% of minorities (2 candidates).
 9. The 3 big minority groups are represented are: Africa-Americans, Hispanics and the Eastern European and will be targeting; but will accept any other minorities that come to the group.
 10. This needs to be in place before submission of the New Title VI program in May 2014.
- **Haywood Road Report:** Kristy will send MMTC members of the Haywood Road Report link and the reason for this is there is section about the Haywood Rd corridor from the bridge to Patton to be bikeable, walkable, sidewalks, etc. on page 20 that shows community planning section.
 1. This focused on the form-based code to change the character or to maintain the character along Haywood Rd.
 2. It is good to point out that there are certain things that can be done through zoning regarding transportation and there certain things that cannot be done through zoning and transportation.
 3. Comments can be made on the link as well.
 4. The important thing to keep in mind one of the things that P&Z is working on is a report that will go to PED and to council is looking at hot spots and looking at corridors that we think are priorities in terms of how to assemble a process like this happen.
 5. As Transportation is in those conversations this is probably a model to work from.
 6. Kristy asks MMTC to review and provide feedback and comments.
 7. There isn't a due date, but per Sasha, send as soon as possible.
 8. Don stated that the importance of things that happen in the private section will not occur without the investment of the streets. The Complete Streets Policy should also include land use.
 9. Kristy stated the Haywood Road Report is a good starting place for the concept.
 10. Don stated that the report also shows how you can wait for transit with dignity with curb extensions and other features with the existing constraints in certain locations.
- **Annual Report:** Jim stated that MMTC will provide to Council each year a written report.
 1. Jim stated that he will need information from the committee members' to provide bullet points as well as MMTC for the report.
 2. Terri stated that the Bike/Ped Task Force would like to offer the opportunity to provide information for the annual report even though it is not required by Council.
 3. Bruce and Jim will report for the MMTC.

4. Marcia will report for the Greenway Committee;
5. Till will report for Bike/Ped Task Force;
6. Itiyopiya will report for Transit Committee.
7. To have information by the end of December to Bruce and Jim and a draft will be provided for the January 22nd meeting.

Old Business

● **Update on RFP of MMT Plan reviewed by MMTC:** Mariate stated that the due date for the RFP is 12/13/13. Mariate requested one member from MMTC to serve on the RFP evaluation committee.

● **Recommendation to Council for Limited Sunday Service and Marketing Fund for ART:** In the MMTC meeting packet was an outline of the Transit Master Plan Implementation Alternatives that Mariate summarized:

1. Limited Sunday Services of nine routes on main corridors;
2. Marketing Service with additional staff person in multimodal;
3. Don moved to support the Transit Committee's priorities for City Council with the understanding that a message to Council that this is important from three perspectives:
 1. A vital social services that is embodied in the Sunday Service; and
 2. A vital commuter service; and
 3. A vital economic development tool.

Bruce seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

● **List of Projects Update:** A list was provided for MMTC and Mariate stated that she will update on the RADTIP and Charlotte Street:

1. RFP for construction document release is still in negotiation process to bring to Council in January for the 100% construction. No funding for construction but the idea is to have everything ready and begin looking for funding. Having the RADTIP ready to go is an advantage to look for federal and state funding and is in the State prioritization.
2. Charlotte Street – there was a presentation to Planning and Economic Development Commission that included several alternatives: the full multimodal; the modest pedestrian and the low pedestrian corridor trying to make the pedestrian improvements ADA compliant; provide alternative routes for bicycles. Staff will be working on this. Mariate will send MMTC the presentation.

● **Public Comment** – None

● **Additional Comments from MMTC:**

1. Bob reported Parks and Greenways Foundation is developing a campaign for fund raising for some greenway developments and parks on the river and would like to make a presentation in February.
2. Iti – as committees are looking to becoming more diverse or inclusive, Iti has relationship with a number of different communities and request MMTC to feel free to contact her if other committees are looking for applicants.

● **Agenda Items for the next meeting:**

Annual Report – Jim and Bruce

Non-profit Friends to Connect Buncombe Project – Marcia

4:50pm – Jim adjourned the meeting.

**RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE
MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**

ARTICLE I

NAME AND CREATION

Section 1. The name of the entity shall be the Multimodal Transportation Commission.

Section 2. The Commission shall be a public body with all meetings of the Commission subject to the open meetings laws of the State of North Carolina.

ARTICLE II

PURPOSE

Subject to such limitations as may be imposed by State law or by Ordinance of the City, the Commission is created to assist the City in furthering, advancing and promoting a broad comprehensive and integrative transportation system that incorporates multimodal concepts, including but not limited to transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, greenways, complete streets, and highways.

ARTICLE III

MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. *Composition:* Membership on the Commission shall be governed by Ordinance No. 4190, adopted by the Asheville City Council on May 14, 2013. The Commission shall consist of nine (9) voting members and three (3) non-voting members, all of whom shall be residents of the City of Asheville. The nine voting members shall include 3 members from the Greenway Committee, 3 members from the Transit Committee and 3 members from the Bicycle and Pedestrian Taskforce. The three non-voting members shall include a member of the Sustainability Advisory Committee on Energy and the Environment, a member of the Planning and Zoning Commission, and a member of the Neighborhood Advisory Committee.

Section 2. *Removal:* Members of the Commission may be removed at the discretion of the City Council.

Section 3. *Attendance:* The failure of any Commission member to attend 75 percent or more of the meetings of the Commission held during a 12-month period, unless excused, may be grounds for removal.

Section 4. *Term of office:* Members of the Commission shall be appointed for three year terms. Membership shall be staggered to the end that the terms of all members shall not expire at the same time. Members may serve up to two consecutive terms.

ARTICLE IV

OFFICERS AND DUTIES

Section 1. *Chair:* The Commission shall have a Chair, who shall be elected by a majority vote of the voting membership of the Commission from among its members. The term of office shall be for one (1) year, or until the successor is duly elected, beginning on January 1st of each year. The Chair shall be eligible for reelection. The Chair may appoint any committees deemed necessary to investigate any matter before the Commission.

Section 2. *Vice-Chair:* The Commission shall have a Vice-Chair who shall be elected by the Commission from among its members in the same manner and for the same term as the Chair and shall be eligible for reelection. The Vice-Chair shall serve as Chair in the absence of the Chair, and when serving as Chair shall have the same powers and duties as the Chair.

Section 3. *Secretary:* The Assistant City Manager or his or her designee will serve as Secretary to the Commission. The Secretary will (1) keep all records; (2) conduct all correspondence of the Commission; (3) arrange for all required public notices to be given; and (4) take minutes at each Commission meeting which shall be kept in a permanent volume, for such duration as may be required by the North Carolina Municipal Records and Disposition Act. The minutes shall reflect all important facts pertaining to each meeting, every motion acted upon by the Commission, and all votes of members of the Commission upon any motion or upon the final determination of any question, indicating the names of members absent or failing to vote.

ARTICLE V

MEETINGS

Section 1. *Number of Meetings:* There shall be at least 9 regular meetings of the Commission each year.

Section 2. *Regular Meetings:* At the beginning of each year, the Secretary, in conjunction with the members of the Commission, shall adopt a schedule of meetings and set a regular meeting place for the year. The Commission may amend the schedule of meetings as deemed necessary.

Section 3 *Procedure:* Unless otherwise provided for by these Rules, Roberts Rules of Order will govern all points of order and procedure.

Section 4 *Agenda:* The Chair in consultation with the Secretary shall set the Agenda for each meeting.

Section 5. *Conduct of Meetings:* The order of business for meetings shall be as follows:

- a. The Chair shall preside over all meetings.
- b. The Chair of each appointed Committee may be called upon to present a report.
- c. The Chair may direct Committees to gather additional data, perform additional research or form subcommittees before voting on a report.
- d. The Commission led by the Chair shall vote on what action to take, if any, on all reports given.

Section 6. *Special Meetings:* Special meetings of the Commission may be called at any time by the Chair or Secretary. At least forty-eight (48) hours written or oral notice of the time and place of the special meeting(s) shall be given by the Secretary to each member of the Commission and the local press.

Section 7. *Emergency Meetings:* The Chair, the Secretary, or any two voting members of the Commission may at any time call an emergency Commission meeting by signing a written notice stating the time and place of the meeting and the subject(s) to be considered. The notice shall be delivered to the Chair and each Commission member at least six hours before the meeting. Notice of the meeting shall be given to all media that has filed a written emergency meeting notice request with the City Clerk or the Secretary. This notice shall be given either by telephone or by the same method used to notify the Chair and Commission members, and shall be given at the expense of the party notified. Emergency meetings shall only be called because of generally unexpected circumstances that require immediate consideration by the Commission. Only business connected with the emergency may be considered at an emergency meeting.

ARTICLE VI

QUORUM

Section 1. A simple majority of voting members of the Commission, excluding vacancies, shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. Once a quorum is established, it shall not be destroyed by one of the members leaving.

ARTICLE VII

VOTING

Section 1. *Requirement:* All voting members are entitled to one vote, including the Chair. All voting members including the Chair must vote on all matters brought before the Commission unless excused by the remaining members according to law.

Section 2. *Exceptions:* A member who wishes to be excused from voting shall so inform the Chair, who shall take a vote of the remaining members. No member shall be excused from voting except upon matters involving the consideration of his or her own financial interest or official conduct. In all other cases, a failure to vote by a member who is physically present for the meeting, or who has withdrawn without being excused by a majority vote of the remaining members present shall be recorded as an affirmative vote.

Section 3. *Roll Call:* All votes of the Commission shall be conducted in such fashion as to allow the minutes to reflect the vote of each Commission member. When a roll call vote is taken, the order of voting shall be alphabetical by last name of the Commission member except for the Chair, who shall vote last.

Section 4. *Majority:* The concurring vote of a majority of the members present of the Commission shall be necessary to act on any matter before the Commission.

ARTICLE VIII

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES

Section 1. Authority: Pursuant to Ordinance No. 4190, the Commission is authorized to establish and appoint committees including a Transit Committee and a Greenway Committee.

Section 2. Standing Committees: The former Transit Commission and the former Greenway Commission shall be established as standing committees of this Commission, and shall be deemed to be in existence as of July 1, 2013. All members appointed by City Council to these two former commissions will automatically be members of the respective standing committees, and, except as set forth below, their terms shall be as they existed prior to July 1, 2013. Membership of the standing committees shall be as follows:

- a. The Transit Committee shall have no fewer than 7 and no more than 11 members.
- b. The Greenway Committee shall have no fewer than 7 and no more than 11 members.

Commission members who derive their seats on the Commission from a standing committee must remain members of their respective standing committee to be entitled to a voting seat on the Commission. If a commission member's term on the standing committee expires before his or her term on the commission, then the term on the committee will be extended to coincide with the member's Commission term.

Section 3. *Appointments to committees:*

- (a) Annually, or more often as needed, the Commission will review the terms of the membership of the standing committees along with any other committee established by the Commission. When there are or will be vacancies within the next three (3) months, the Commission will direct the chair of the relevant committee to advertise the vacancies and accept applications using the City of Asheville form for Boards and Commissions, adapted as necessary for the committee.
- (b) The committee will review applications received and make recommendations of one or more candidates for consideration by the Commission. Provided that the recommendations of the committee are received at least five days before a Commission meeting, the Commission shall vote on the candidates at its next meeting.
- (c) Each voting member of the Commission shall have as many votes as the number of seats to be filled and may only use one vote per candidate, per committee. The successful candidate(s) must receive a majority vote from the voting members of the Commission, excluding vacant seats.

Section 4. *Selection considerations:* In selecting members to committees, the Commission will strive for a balanced membership, including representation from transit and greenway users; economic, geographic, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity; and diversity of skills and interests that may be valuable to the committee and Commission.

ARTICLE IX

PUBLIC ADDRESS TO THE COMMISSION

Section 1. *Agenda:* The Commission will include on every agenda a public comment period at the beginning and at the end of the meetings.

Section 2. *Time Limit:* Any person addressing the Commission shall be limited to a three-minute presentation. Any group of three (3) or more individuals, not including the speaker, making a presentation to the Commission may have a single spokesperson who will be allowed ten minutes to address the Commission. The Commission will receive written information from any individuals or groups that cannot conclude their presentations within these time limitations.

Section 3. *Prior to a Vote:* The public shall be allowed to comment on matters under consideration by the Commission prior to a final vote on the matter by the Commission.

Section 4. *Requests to be on Agenda:* Any individual or group who wishes to address the Commission may make a written request to the Secretary to be on the agenda. The Chair and

the Secretary will determine, based upon completeness of the request and the other necessary business of the Commission, whether the matter will be placed on the agenda.

ARTICLE X

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No Commission member shall take part in the hearing, consideration or determination of any case in which the member is personally or financially interested.

ARTICLE XI

AMENDMENTS

These Rules may be amended by a three-fourths affirmative vote of the members of the Commission; provided, however, all amendments must be presented in writing at a regular meeting preceding the meeting at which the vote is taken.

These Rules are adopted this _____ day of _____, 2014.

Secretary

Chair

Asheville Multimodal Transportation Commission
2013 Annual Report
January 2014

The City of Asheville's Multimodal Transportation Commission is newly formed, having been established by an ordinance adopted May 14, 2013. The Commission's first meeting was August 28, 2013. Accordingly, much of the Commission's capacity in 2013 was devoted to organizational management. To that end, the Commission:

- Introduced members to each other, including a description of each member's background, interest in serving, and what he or she brings to the Commission; from this, we learned that the Commission is a highly diverse group, including planners, landscape architects, lawyers, transit riders, cyclists and pedestrians, business interests, public health professionals, and others.
- Elected Jim Grode as Chair and Bruce Emory as Vice-Chair.
- Set a regular meeting schedule for the fourth Wednesday of each month from 3:00 to 4:30 pm.
- Reconstituted the former Transit and Greenway Commissions as Committees of the Multimodal Transportation Commission and formally reappointed all current members to those Committees.
- Articulated the Commission's perception of its purpose and role:

To assist the City in furthering, advancing and promoting a broad comprehensive and integrative transportation system that incorporates multimodal concepts, including but not limited to transit, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, greenways, complete streets, and highways.
- Adopted Bylaws and made substantial progress on Rules of Procedure (which we anticipate adopting at our January or February meeting **[update after meeting]**).

In addition to these procedural and management activities, the Commission had several substantive achievements during its short existence:

- Voted to approve updates to the City's Greenway Master Plan to include additional potential greenway segments identified after the adoption of the 2009 Master Plan, better articulate the system's network functions, and clarify greenway opportunities in the I-26 corridor in anticipation of the Connector project and other highway upgrades.
- Commission members participated in the Haywood Street Form-Based Code Charrette process and provided input on transportation aspects of the code.

- In October, Commission members attended the Festival of Neighborhoods; this accomplished two functions: providing information about multimodal transportation opportunities to the public, and learning from neighborhood representatives about their multimodal transportation needs and desires.
- Remaining mindful of the need to avoid potential conflicts of interest, Commission members sat on the evaluation committee for proposals for the new Multimodal Transportation Plan.
- Reviewed and commented on a presentation concerning the East of the Riverway Transportation Network.
- Reviewed and approved a list of funding priorities for implementation of the Transit Master Plan.
- Commission members participated in the I-26 Connector Bicycle-Pedestrian Workshop convened by NCDOT in September.
- Voted on the permanent closure of one right of way.

During the first half of the year, the Transit and Greenway Commissions existed as independent Commissions. In the second half of the year, they continued to exist as Committees of the Multimodal Transportation Commission, and the city's Bicycle-Pedestrian Task Force was brought under the umbrella of the Commission. The Committees and Task Force have prepared reports of their 2013 activities, which are attached to this report.

The members of the Multimodal Transportation Commission understand that City Council faces many competing demands for resources. We appreciate Council's recognition that a comprehensive and functional multimodal transportation network provides economic, health, quality of life, and environmental benefits to the City and thank Council for its commitment to developing such a network. We are grateful for the opportunity to serve on the Commission.

Asheville Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force 2013 Annual Report

Vision

For Asheville to be a community of connected pathways that is healthy, safe and accessible for people of all ages.

Mission

To educate the public about bicycle and pedestrian transportation. To advocate for the development and maintenance of safe, convenient and inter-connected facilities. To promote the benefits of walking and biking for individuals and community health.

Ongoing Activities, Collaborations and Projects.

In each of the listed items the Bike-Ped Task Force (or members from this group) played a role in facilitating the activity by providing leadership, feedback and/or volunteers.

- **“Walk Friendly Community” Project**
 - Applied for the “Walk Friendly Community” designation. Asheville was awarded the Silver-Designation making Asheville the first silver level community in NC.
- **“Bike Friendly Community” Project update (Awarded the Bronze-Level in 2012.)**
 - Reviewed feedback and suggested improvement. (See next item for specifics.)
- **“Bike There 2016” Campaign (Preparation for the National Cyclo-cross Competition)**
 - Hosted two workshops to gain community input on Asheville’s primary bicycle corridors.
 - Developed GIS maps of the primary corridors for Asheville.
- **Asheville Police Department Collaborations**
 - Arranged for merchants to donate bike lights to the APD to give to cyclists in need of lights.
 - Provided feedback to APD’s crash reduction initiative.
 - Provided volunteers for 3 Bike Rodeos held at diverse Asheville locations serving 125 kids.
- **Community Outreach**
 - Provided volunteers and feedback for Strive-not-to-drive Week, May 12 -18.
 - Collaborated with Asheville on Bikes to have successful Bicycle Corrals. Approximately 2,400 bikes were parked in the corrals in 2013.
- **Complete Street Initiatives**
 - Provided volunteers and feedback to install way finding signs for bicycles.
 - Helped organize Complete Street Work shop. Approximately 20 attended including several task force members.
 - Participated in “Best Practices Workshop” at Minneapolis, MN on June 15th. (Several members including a city council member and city staff attended.)
 - Participated in the NC Bike Summit in Carrboro, NC on Oct 18-19. (6 members attended.)

- Provided input and feedback into the implementation of safe bike routes.
- Provided input to the French Broad Metropolitan Planning Organization. Members sit on the MPO's Complete Street Sub-Committee.
- **Assessment**
 - Conducted Annual bike survey during first week of September with help from UNCA volunteers.

Respectfully submitted by Lothar Dohse January 15, 2014

Asheville Greenway Committee 2013 Annual Report

2013 was a watershed year for the Asheville Greenway Commission (now Greenway Committee). In the previous year the Commission changed its primary staff contact from the Parks and Recreation Department to the Transportation Department, recognizing the broader role of greenways as part of a multi-modal transportation system. At a 2012 planning workshop the Commission identified a multi-modal transportation plan as its highest priority. Taking into account the Greenway Commission's suggestions along with those from other quarters the City Council created the Multi-Modal Transportation Commission, charged with taking a leadership role in creating and implementing the multi-modal transportation master plan. A third of the voting members of the new Commission come from the Greenway Committee.

During the year the Committee engaged in the following activities:

- Held a planning session which included:
 - Discussion of the Greenway Commission's role in the proposed Multi-Model Transportation Commission;
 - Prioritization of future greenway projects for feasibility studies (Swannanoa River from Tunnel Rd. to BRP, Beaverdam Road, Reed Creek to 251 north, Canie Creek and Smith Mill Creek);
 - Recommended that the Greenway Committee have representation on the Parks and Recreation Commission to reinforce the health and recreation role of greenways; and
 - Nominated Jim Grode, Mary Weber and Marcia Bromberg as the Greenway representatives to the new Commission.
- Continued community outreach by participating in various community forums and addressing interested community groups.
- Submitted a position to DOT on the planned improvements to the Brevard Road/I-26 interchange that would allow greenway connection to Bent Creek, the Pisgah National Forest and the Blue Ridge Parkway.
- Received and monitored updates on Beaucatcher Greenway Construction and the Clingman Forest/Town Branch Greenways planning.
- Reviewed several road closure proposals. (In the future these will be reviewed by the Multi-Modal Transportation Commission).
- Reviewed and commented on transportation projects presented by Transportation Department staff.
- Commented on the updated Asheville Greenway Master Plan.
- Received information about the Burton Street Community Plan and Hominy Creek Greenway plans; scheduled a visit to the Burton Street neighborhood and Hominy Creek Greenway in February.

Asheville Transit Committee 2013 Annual Report

In 2013 the Transit Committee continued its support of the implementation of the Transit Master Plan (TMP).

TMP Implementation

1. Completed Projects from the Transit Master Plan

Projects that were completed in 2013 include:

- E1 Additional service
- Time and small route adjustments to improve performance
- Added limited holiday service on key routes for New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day.
- Purchased several additional new 30-foot Buses and 2 35-foot used buses. Fleet total is now 23.
- Installed 10 Shelters
- Repairs made to the Maintenance Facility roof
- Improved bus-stop signage
- Two surveys: a boarding & alighting count as part of MPO's modeling study; and a TMP implementation follow up survey done in partnership with Just Economics
- Let the contract for the Automated Vehicle Location system which will let riders track buses in real time on their cellphones.

Transit Commission Goals

For 2013, the TC had the following goals:

1. Continued Transit Master Plan Implementation (also see above)

- We continue to look to expand service through growing public-private partnerships i.e. Health Express (MAHEC and Mission), Biltmore Park-Sierra Nevada-WCU, and AB Tech. None of these has resulted in a new partnership, but discussions are ongoing with MAHEC and AB Tech.
- The N1 runs later Thursday through Saturday (while school is in session) thanks to UNCA.
- Green Opportunities became part of the Passport Program, joining existing members Buncombe County, the City of Asheville, the Grove Park Inn, and UNCA.

2. Strengthen Communication with Drivers

- Regular meetings between the drivers, City staff, and TC members continue and provide a good opportunity for all parties to collaborate on resolving issues and differences.

3. Improve the Rider Experience

- We continued ongoing rider education and information, hosting information tables at the Vanderbilt Apartments, Battery Park Apartments, Catholic Social Services, and other locations.
- We have researched options for effective messages on rider etiquette but have not moved toward implementation yet.
- The TC voted to keep the ART station open until 10:00pm with a dispatcher and police officer there to provide greater security and safety for riders.
- Strive Not To Drive was utilized as an outreach opportunity to help people get better acquainted with how to navigate our transit system. An information table staffed by TC members was available to provide information.

4. Improve Coordination with Buncombe County

- We lost our Buncombe County representative and so have not moved forward on this goal.

Other 2013 Highlights

- Public Stuff became the new way to lodge and track complaints
- TC joined the Multimodal Transportation Commission
- We met with Council to advocate funding for implementation of additional improvements from the TMP, including Sunday service, an additional bus on the C and S3 routes, and improvements to the S4 route.

Anticipated in 2014

- We will have at least four new members in 2014 due to the resignation of Kevin Jenkins and Larnel (Lonnie) Blair, and the MMTC approved a request to have more members on the TC. At least three of the four new members are transit-dependent riders.
- We very much hope Council will fund limited Sunday service in which buses will run on Sundays using a holiday schedule.
- Implementation of the AVL system.
- We also hope to improve the service on the C route so that riders' connections are more efficient.
- We look to continue to improve in our marketing and communications materials.
- Continued public outreach so that riders and potential riders are more informed.

We thank the Multi-Modal Transportation Commission for its support of ART, and we look forward to our continued collaboration with you in improving this vital element of the City's infrastructure.

Respectfully submitted,
2014 City of Asheville Transit Committee

Bruce Emory
Dave Erb, Vice Chair
Itiyopiya Ewart

Julie Mayfield, Chair
Tom Tomlin

Transportation Planning Division List of projects

On-going

- RADTIP
 - Scheduled to go to council on January 28.
- East of the Riverway Transportation Network Plan
 - Scheduled to go to Council on February 25
- JARC Signals Design contract
 - Locations:
 - Louisiana & Haywood Rd
 - McDowell & Choctaw
 - South Charlotte & Biltmore
- Sharrow Network North
 - Waiting on resurfacing in some locations and budget
- Bicycle Wayfinding pilot project
 - Installation complete
- Charlotte Street
 - Presented to PED.

New

- Multi-modal Transportation Plan – Developing RFP.
 - Engage a consultant by February 2013.
- Transit Station repairs
 - Engage a contractor by March 2014
- ADA restructuring
 - Redefine service area
 - Streamline eligibility process
- ISO 14000 - ART
 - Engage a consultant by June 2014.

1/9/14

Other efforts

- The Riverside Drive development plan (led by Stephanie Monson-Dahl in Economic Development).
- Haywood Rd. Multimodal Improvements. – Public meeting.
- Hendersonville Rd. sidewalk

4/9/14